

Wood Shed at 1195 Cochrane Road B



Pump House at 1195 Cochrane Road B

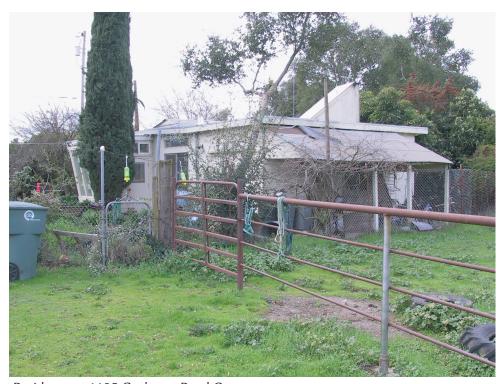


3.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES		
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Residence at 1195 Cochrane Road C



Residence at 1195 Cochrane Road C

FIGURE 3.5-3
PHOTOGRAPHS OF RESIDENCE LOCATED AT 1195 COCHRANE ROAD C



3.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES	
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- Is associated with lives of persons important in our past;
- Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values; and/or
- Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

CEQA also presents criteria for the identification of unique archaeological resources at Section 21083.2(g). A resource is considered significant if it:

- Contains information needed to answer important scientific research questions and that there is a demonstrable public interest in that information;
- Has a special and particular quality such as being the oldest of its type or the best available example of its type; and/or
- Is directly associated with a scientifically recognized important prehistoric or historic event.

In addition to the eligibility criteria at CEQA Section 15064.5(a)(3), the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 14, Division 3, Chapter 11.5 § 4852 (c) also states that integrity of historical resources should be considered when addressing their eligibility for inclusion in the CRHR. This section of the CCR describes integrity as the

...authenticity of an historical resource's physical identity evidenced by the survival of characteristics that existed during the resource's period of significance. Historical resources eligible for listing in the California Register must...retain enough of their historic character to be recognizable as historical resources and to convey the reasons for their significance.

Integrity is evaluated with regard to the retention of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Therefore, eligible historic resources must not only meet one of the above listed criteria, but also they must retain enough of their historic character or appearance to convey the reasons for their importance, or retain the potential to yield significant scientific or historical information or specific data. Most often, historical resources eligible for the California Register will be 50 years old or older. However, the regulations stipulate "a resource less than fifty (50) years old may be considered for listing in the CRHR if it can be demonstrated that sufficient time has passed to understand its historical importance."

CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION, REGIONAL INFORMATION CENTERS

The California Office of Historic Preservation established the Regional Information Centers as local repositories for all archaeological reports prepared under cultural resource management regulations. State guidelines and current professional standards require a background search at the appropriate Regional Information Center. Following the completion of a project, a copy of the report must be deposited at the appropriate Regional Information Center to assist with future background searches.

CITY OF MORGAN HILL GENERAL PLAN

The following goals and policies in the *City of Morgan Hill General Plan* are applicable to the proposed project.

Open Space and Conservation Element

- **Goal 8** Preservation of the city's historic identity
- **Policy 8a** Encourage the preservation and rehabilitation of the city's historic structures
- **Action 8.1** Review and update the inventory of historic resources, as appropriate.
- **Action 8.2** Identify and protect heritage resources from loss and destruction.
- **Action 8.3** Prior to approving demolition of historically significant buildings, evaluate alternatives, including structural preservation, relocation or other mitigation, and demonstrate that financing has been secured for replacement use.
- **Action 8.4** Designate historically significant structures or sites as cultural resources, and offer said properties rehabilitation loans or grants.

CITY OF MORGAN HILL GENERAL PLAN EIR

The following mitigation measure in the City of Morgan Hill General Plan EIR is applicable to the proposed project.

Mitigation Measure CULT-1a

Until the historic resource inventory is updated as recommended in the General Plan, no building permit for alteration or demolition shall be approved for any property over 45-years old. Buildings over 45 years old should be reviewed by a qualified architectural historian prior to project approval.

3.5.3 IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

STANDARDS OF SIGNIFICANCE

The following thresholds for measuring a project's environmental impacts are based on CEQA Guidelines and other performance standards recognized by the City of Morgan Hill. For the purposes of this EIR, a significant impact will occur if the project will result in one or more of the following:

- Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical or archaeological resource as defined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5;
- Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature; and/or
- Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries.

METHODOLOGY

Archaeological and historical investigations for the project were conducted to comply with regulations and criteria presented in CEQA and its guidelines at Section 15064.5. Archaeological and historical investigations included: a records search at the Northwest Information Center at Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park; a sacred lands search conducted by the Native American Heritage Commission; consultation with the Native American community and other interested parties (e.g., local historical societies); pedestrian surface survey of the area of potential effect; and completion of a report documenting the results of archeological and historical investigations that is included as Appendix E of this EIR. Research was conducted to determine if there are any previously recorded archaeological resources within the project site and whether or not the project area has been included within any prior archaeological research or field surveys. Architectural historian, Andrea Galvin, M.A., reviewed the investigation site records and findings for the existing structures for accuracy of historical importance. Archaeological and historical investigations for the proposed project were completed in January 2005.

PROJECT IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Archaeological and Cultural Resources

Impact 3.5-1 The project site does not contain any recorded or anticipated resources of archaeological, cultural, or pre-historic significance. However, site preparation and grading could disrupt undiscovered archaeological and

cultural resources of importance under CEQA and/or eligible for listing on the California Register. This is a **potentially significant impact.**

Field inspections and review of maps and records on file at the Northwest Information Center at Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park did not reveal any archaeological resource on or within the vicinity of the project site. These investigations did not identify any historical resources or unique archaeological resources within or in the vicinity of the project site. The project site has historically been used for agriculture and is heavily disturbed due to discing, tilling, and planting, which could destroy or cover resources if they were present at one time. Regardless of theses findings, it is always possible to inadvertently uncover cultural resources or human remains during ground disturbing project activity (e.g. grading activities during construction). Any destruction or disturbance of undiscovered archaeological resources, whether planned or inadvertent, is considered a **potentially significant impact**. Implementation of the following mitigation measures would reduce this impact to a **less than significant level**.

Mitigation Measures

MM 3.5-1a

Should any previously undisturbed cultural, historic, or archaeological resources be uncovered in the course of site preparation, clearing or grading activities, all operations within 150 feet of the discovery shall be halted until such time as a qualified professional archaeologist can be consulted to evaluate the find and recommend appropriate action. If the find is determined to be significant, appropriate mitigation measures shall be formulated by the City of Morgan Hill and implemented by the project applicant.

MM 3.5-1b

In the event of discovery or recognition of any human remains in any location other than a dedicated cemetery, there shall be no further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains until the coroner of Santa Clara County has determined whether the remains are subject to the coroner's authority. This is in accordance with Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code. If the human remains are of Native American origin, the coroner must notify the Native American Heritage Commission within 24 hours of identification. Pursuant to Section 5097.98 of the Public Resource Code, the Native American Heritage Commission will identify a "Native American Most Likely Descendent" to inspect the site and provide recommendations for the proper treatment of the remains and any associated grave goods.

Implementation of the above mitigation measures will reduce the potential impact to undiscovered archaeological resources to a **less than significant impact** by halting operations in the event of a discovery and assessing the find in accordance with Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code.

Demolition of Potentially Historic Resources

Impact 3.5-2 Implementation of the proposed project would demolish three private residences and associated structures (e.g., tank houses, barns, and other storage facilities) that were constructed over 45 years ago. Based on the archaeological and historic investigation completed for the proposed project, none of the buildings/structures within the project site appear to meet the eligibility criteria for inclusion in the California Register of Historic Resources (CRHR) or for consideration as unique archaeological resources. Therefore, demolition of these structures would be considered a less than significant impact.

The proposed project site includes three private residences and associated structures (e.g., tank houses, barns, and other storage facilities) that were constructed over 45 years ago. The residences include 1195 Cochrane Road A, built in 1930; 1196 Cochrane Road B, built in 1912; and 1195 Cochrane Road C, built in 1940. Field and archival research performed by PMC and Galvin & Associates did not identify information to suggest that the residences and/or structures are in any way associated with events that made a broad contribution to the history of California, or any important individual important in our past. These structures do not embody any distinctive elements of design or methods of construction that are representative of a particular type or period of construction and remodeling and/or reconstruction has comprised the integrity of these structures.

The residences and structures on the project site are adequately recorded in the archaeological and historical investigation included as Appendix E, and additional research regarding these structures is not anticipated to yield additional information about the historical significance. Therefore, these structures are not considered historically significant and demolition of these structures would be considered a **less than significant impact.** No mitigation is required.

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Cumulative Impacts to Archaeological and Cultural Resources

Impact 3.5-3 Implementation of the proposed project, in combination with cumulative development activity in the region, would increase the potential to

disturb or contribute to the loss of known and undiscovered cultural resources. This is considered a **potentially significant impact.**

Implementation of Mitigation Measures MM 3.5-1a and MM 3.5-1b would ensure that the project's contribution to this cumulative impact will be reduced to a less than significant level by addressing impacts on a case by case basis, thus avoiding compounding of cumulative development.

REFERENCES/DOCUMENTATION

- California, State of. Governor's Office of Planning and Research. *Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act*, as amended. 2005.
- Morgan Hill, City of. Morgan Hill General Plan. July 25, 2001 (Updated July 2004).
- Morgan Hill, City of. Morgan Hill General Plan, Draft Master Environmental Impact Report. March 22, 2001.
- Morgan Hill, City of. Morgan Hill General Plan, Final Master Environmental Impact Report. July 6, 2001.
- Pacific Municipal Consultants. Archaeological and Historical Investigations for the Cochrane Road PUD, Morgan Hill. January 2005.
- Twining Laboratories, Inc. Phase I Environmental Site Assessment, Northeast of Interstate 101 and Cochrane Road, Morgan Hill, Santa Clara County, California. June 2004.